The American Academy of Pediatrics has active international programs in several child health priority areas that are aligned with the domestic work outlined in the AAP Agenda for Children. Activities include child health advocacy, pediatric education, membership, scientific meetings, and publications for pediatricians and other child health professionals working to improve the health of all children. The Department of International Child Health (DOICH) is committed to supporting AAP Chapter, Section, Council and Committee leaders, and Academy members to advance activities to improve children’s health and access to health care.

Membership The AAP Department of Membership and DOICH collaborate with pediatric societies/groups to promote Academy membership options. Membership for international physicians provides access to networking, member benefits, and discounts on the Academy’s publications, journals, and educational resources. The recent expansion of the Resident Member category to include International Residents allows the Academy greater flexibility to accommodate growth and partnership with the pediatric physician community abroad.

Journals & Publications The Academy is the leading publisher of pediatric journals and digital publications worldwide, delivering original research, commentaries, evidence-based medical education, and the latest news for pediatric healthcare professionals. Pediatrics, Pediatrics in Review, Hospital Pediatrics, NeoReviews, AAP Grand Rounds, PREP The Curriculum, and PREP Subspecialties reach over 200,000 subscribers annually in 130 countries. Nine AAP journals have launched translated international editions and 31,000 books and e-books have been distributed in 120 countries. More than 50 of the current AAP publications are translated into 41 different languages. Red Book, the AAP’s global handbook on infectious disease, has also been translated into several languages including Spanish, Chinese, and Turkish. Resources like Red Book Online and Pediatric Care Online reach 130,000 health care providers annually.

AAP.ORG The Academy’s flagship website for members and pediatric health care professionals generates 14% of its overall traffic from countries outside of the United States. The site provides pediatric professionals with a wide range of information, including professional and clinical support, AAP research and health initiatives, policy information as well as advocacy resources.

HealthyChildren.org The Academy’s consumer-facing website is a digital extension of the AAP mission to provide the most trustworthy health content to parents and caregivers at home, on the go, and from anywhere in the world. Visitors come to HealthyChildren.org from 241 different countries and territories, accounting for over 38% of the site’s overall traffic. HealthyChildren en Español (launched in 2013) provides the same valuable information as HealthyChildren.org in English—thousands of articles on health and safety topics, immunization schedules, newsletters, and more - all in Spanish. HealthyChildren.org’s highly popular social media accounts (Facebook, Twitter, Pinterest) all have a counterpart account in Spanish—adding additional reach to international consumer audiences.

Conferences Twenty-four percent (24%) of professional attendees at the 2016 AAP National Conference & Exhibition (www.aapexperience.org) were international participants. Each year, AAP experts participate in three dozen international and national meetings, contributing expertise and fostering a number of relationships with international organizations and figures. In the past, live AAP continuing medical education courses have been held in international locations.

AAP News AAP News, the official news magazine of the Academy, is part of AAP Gateway, the clinical research and news network. AAP News brings members an array of pediatric news and information geared toward pediatricians and other pediatric health care professionals.

International Pediatric Association (IPA) The AAP is a proud member of the IPA, a consortium of more than 150 pediatric organizations. The IPA endeavors to represent its members and provide support to pediatric leadership as they advocate for global policy initiatives or respond to natural and humanitarian disasters.

Section On International Child Health (SOICH) SOICH has over 1000 AAP members committed to improving the health and well-being of the world’s children through education, advocacy, research, facilitation of direct health services, and effective global partnerships. The Section’s ICATCH program provides small grants to pediatricians over a period of three years in resource-limited countries to develop and implement community-based child health activities. The International Elective Award, offers grants to pediatric residents to complete their elective coursework in resource-limited countries.

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Global Immunization Advocacy

The Academy advocates for polio and measles/rubella eradication, pneumococcal and rotavirus vaccine accessibility, and increased Gavi funding worldwide. The Academy also supports country-ownership of immunization priorities in partnership with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), Pfizer, and national pediatric societies (NPS). These priorities include access to routine vaccinations; introduction of new vaccines; and polio, measles, and rubella eradication. The Academy works with each NPS to build capacity to advocate for vaccine priorities and provide appropriate information and education around immunizations to key national stakeholders. Currently the Academy has active partnerships with societies in Ethiopia, Indonesia, Kenya, Japan, Nepal, Nigeria, and Philippines. In collaboration with the Measles & Rubella Initiative, the AAP leads the Ivy + Bean vs the Measles campaign, which provides educational resources promoting the importance of childhood vaccinations.

NCD Child

Since 2014, the Academy has served as the Secretariat for NCD Child, a coalition of organizations and individuals advocating for the prevention, management, and treatment of non-communicable diseases (NCD) in children, adolescents, and young people. NCD Child ensures young people are included in the global NCD agenda and discourse through its high-level advocacy events at the United Nations General Assembly and World Health Assembly; advocacy leadership workshop series modeled after the Academy's successful domestic advocacy efforts; social media and publications; and sustained youth engagement.

International Disaster Preparedness and Relief Efforts

The AAP coordinates various emergency readiness and disaster response projects, often in partnership with federal agencies, other key stakeholders, and international colleagues. Its 10-module Pediatric Education in Disasters (PEDS) training program, available in English, Spanish, and many other languages, offers training materials for pediatric leaders in the management of disaster relief, healthcare, and rescue for children. The AAP Friends of Children Fund supports pediatric efforts in disaster preparedness and response by working with pediatric societies in multiple countries, including Haiti, Vietnam, Tanzania, and Mexico. Support from these efforts also addresses the needs of children affected by conflict in Syria, Jordan, Turkey, Lebanon, and Kenya. The Academy is actively collaborating with the CDC and other partners on establishing a coordinated response to Zika.

Neonatal Resuscitation Program (NRP)

NRP is an evidence-based program emphasizing a coordinated team-based approach to caring for babies. The program educates trainees on key behavioral skills for success that are refined through simulation-based methodology and debriefing. NRP is used in 143 countries and has been translated into 24 languages.

Helping Babies Survive (HBS)

Based on the success of the Helping Babies Breathe (HBB), the AAP developed a new suite of train the-trainer educational modules to address neonatal survival in resource-limited settings. The AAP and Survive and Thrive Global Development Alliance partners collaborate on the implementation of HBS modules, which include HBB, Essential Care for Every Baby (ECEB), and Essential Care for Small Babies (ECSB). HBB alone has been taught in 77 countries to at least 400,000 birth attendants. Studies in Tanzania and Nepal have shown at least 47% decrease in early neonatal mortality and 24% decrease in fresh stillbirths. (Pediatrics, 2/14; 5/16).

Survive and Thrive Global Development Alliance (GDA)

The Survive and Thrive GDA is a multi-disciplinary partnership between the AAP, the American College of Obstetricians and Gynecologists, the American College of Nurse-Midwives, USAID, and other public and private sector organizations dedicated to improving the quality of facility-based maternal, newborn and child health (MNCH) services, implementing evidence-based MNCH interventions, and strengthening national professional organizations in high-priority countries.

Helping 100,000 Babies Survive and Thrive

Launched in June 2014 by the Survive and Thrive GDA partners, this initiative mobilizes the health professional associations of Ethiopia, India, and Nigeria to commit to saving at least 100,000 newborn babies as a response to the goals of the Every Newborn Action Plan and the Sustainable Development Goals, specifically Goal 3, which aims to ensure healthy lives and well-being at all ages. It's main objective is to facilitate and develop future in-country capacity to continue saving newborn lives by scaling up HBS and Helping Mothers Survive training and quality improvement strategies.

Helping Babies Survive

Survive & thrive